(1) If medications are given, they shall be administered to children only by a provider trained in the administration of medications.

Rationale / Explanation

The purpose of this rule is to avoid harm to children through errors in administering medications. CFOC, pg. 138 Standard 3.083

Enforcement

Level 1 Noncompliance: If administration of medication by an untrained caregiver results in harm to a child.

Level 3 Noncompliance otherwise.

- (2) All over-the-counter and prescription medications shall:
 - (a) be labeled with the child's name;
 - (b) be kept in the original or pharmacy container;
 - (c) have the original label; and,
 - (d) have child-safety caps.

Rationale / Explanation

The purposes of this rule are to avoid harm to children through errors is administering medications, and to prevent children from getting into and ingesting medications by themselves. CFOC, pg. 138 Standard 8.082

Enforcement

Level 1 Noncompliance: for (b) and (c).

Level 2 Noncompliance: for (a) and (d).

(3) All non-refrigerated medications shall be inaccessible to children and stored in a container or area that is locked, such as a locked room, cupboard, drawer, or a lockbox. The provider shall store all refrigerated medications in a covered container with a tight fitting lid.

Rationale / Explanation

The purpose of this rule is to prevent children from getting into and ingesting medications by themselves. CFOC, pg. 138 Standard 8.082

Enforcement

For the purposes of storing medications, "locked" can include a cupboard or drawer that is secured with a child safety lock.

Level 1 Noncompliance: if a child gets into a medication.

Level 2 Noncompliance otherwise.

- (4) The provider shall have a written medication permission form completed and signed by the parent prior to administering any over-the-counter or prescription medication to a child. The permission form must include:
 - (a) the name of the medication;
 - (b) written instructions for administration; including:
 - (i) the dosage;
 - (ii) the method of administration;
 - (iii) the times and dates to be administered; and
 - (iv) the disease or condition being treated; and
 - (c) the parent signature and the date signed.

Rationale / Explanation

The purpose of this rule is to protect both providers and children by ensuring that medication is never given to a child without written parental permission. CFOC, pgs. 137-138 Standard 3.081; pgs. 363-364 Standard 8.051

A medication's method of administration means the way the medication is given. For example: orally (by mouth), topically (applied to the skin), in drops (ears or eyes), or inhaled (through the mouth or nasally).

For the purposes of this rule, medications do not include topical antiseptic from a first aid kit, diaper cream, sunscreen, baby powder, or baby lotion.

Enforcement

If a center has one medication form that includes both the medication permission items required in this rule, and the medication administration items required in (7)(e), the center will be considered in compliance with both rules if all of the required information from (4) and (7)(e) appears somewhere on the form.

Level 1 Noncompliance if a child is given medication without any written permission from the parent.

Level 2 Noncompliance otherwise.

(5) If the provider keeps over-the-counter medication at the center that is not brought in by a parent for their child's use, the medication shall not be administered to any child without prior parental consent for each instance it is given.

Rationale / Explanation

The purpose of this rule is to protect both providers and children by ensuring that medication is never given to a child without parental knowledge and permission. CFOC, pgs. 137-138 Standard 3.081; pgs. 363-364 Standard 8.051

Enforcement

Always Level 1 Noncompliance.

(6) If the provider chooses not to administer medication as instructed by the parent, the provider shall notify the parent of their refusal to administer the medication prior to the time the medication needs to be given.

Rationale / Explanation

The purpose for this rule is so that parents do not drop a child off at the center thinking their child will be given medication as requested, if the child will in fact not be given the medication.

Enforcement

Level 1 Noncompliance: If the condition being treated could be life threatening.

Level 2 Noncompliance otherwise.

- (7) When administering medication, the provider administering the medication shall:
 - (a) wash their hands;
 - (b) check the medication label to confirm the child's name;
 - (c) compare the instructions on the parent release form with the directions on the prescription label or product package to ensure that a child is not given a dosage larger than that recommended by the health care provider or the manufacturer;
 - (d) administer the medication; and
 - (e) immediately record the following information:
 - (i) the date, time, and dosage of the medication given;
 - (ii) the signature or initials of the provider who administered the medication; and,
 - (iii) any errors in administration or adverse reactions.

Rationale / Explanation

The purpose of this rule is to avoid harm to children by ensuring that medications are properly administered. CFOC, pg. 138 Standard 3.083

Enforcement

If a center has one medication form that includes both the medication administration items required in this rule, and the medication permission items required in (4), the center will be considered in compliance with both rules if all of the required information from (4) and (7)(e) appears somewhere on the form.

Level 1 Noncompliance: If the provider does not follow (b) or (c).

Level 2 Noncompliance: If the provider does not record the information required in (e).

Level 3 Noncompliance: If the provider does not follow (a), or if the medication administration record doesn't include all of the information required in (e).

(8) The provider shall report any adverse reaction to a medication or error in administration to the parent immediately upon recognizing the error or reaction, or after notifying emergency personnel if the reaction is life threatening.

Rationale / Explanation

The purpose of this rule is to avoid additional harm to children by ensuring that any adverse medication reaction or administration error is dealt with immediately, including by emergency personnel if needed. CFOC, pg. 138

Standard 3.083

Enforcement

Always Level 1 Noncompliance.

(9) The provider shall not keep medications at the center for children who are no longer enrolled.

Rationale / Explanation

The purpose of this rule is to reduce the likelihood of a child accidently being given a medication that is not prescribed for them.

Enforcement

Always Level 3 Noncompliance.